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I claim:

1. A door key retention device for a powered door, comprising:

a lock for the powered door, said lock having a locked position, an unlocked position, and a key for moving said lock from a locked position to an unlocked position when it is inserted in said lock, which key can be withdrawn from said lock when the lock is in the locked position, but cannot be withdrawn from said lock when the lock is in an unlocked position, the door being provided with power so that it can be opened and closed only when the lock is in the unlocked position; and apparatus preventing the lock from being returned to the locked position unless the door is closed.

2. A device as described in claim 1, wherein said apparatus includes an electrically actuated member.

3. A device as described in claim 2, wherein said member physically prevents the lock from being returned to the locked position.

4. A device as described in claim 1, further including an electrically actuated member and a down limit switch, which switch opens a circuit supplying power to the electrically actuated member when the door has reached a closed position.

5. A device as described in claim 4, wherein said circuit is part of a circuit supplying power used to close the door.

6. A device as described in claim 5, wherein said member physically prevents the lock from being returned to the locked position.

7. A door key retention device for a powered door, comprising:

a lock for the powered door having a turnable barrel, the barrel having a slot for insertion of a key and being turnable by said key from a locked position where the key can be withdrawn from said slot to an unlocked position where the key cannot be withdrawn from said slot, the door being provided with power so that it can be opened and closed only when the barrel is turned to the unlocked position; and apparatus preventing the barrel from being returned to the locked position unless the door is closed.

5 10 8. A device as described in claim 7, wherein said apparatus includes an electrically actuated member.

9. A device as described in claim 8, wherein said member physically prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position.

10. A device as described in claim 9, wherein said member  
15 interacts with an extension attached to said barrel.

11. A device as described in claim 10, wherein said member prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position by physically blocking rotation of the extension attached to said barrel.

12. A device as described in claim 7, further including an  
20 electrically actuated member and a down limit switch, which switch opens a circuit supplying power to the electrically actuated member when the door has reached a closed position.

13. A device as described in claim 12, wherein said circuit is part of a circuit supplying power used to close the door.

25 14. A device as described in claim 13, wherein said member physically prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position.

15. A device as described in claim 14, wherein said member interacts with an extension attached to said barrel.

16. A device as described in claim 15, wherein said member  
30 prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position by physically blocking rotation of the extension attached to said barrel.

17. A door key retention device for a powered door, comprising:

5            a lock for the powered door having a turnable barrel, the barrel having a slot for insertion of a key and being turnable by said key from a locked position where the key can be withdrawn from said slot to an unlocked position where the key cannot be withdrawn from said slot, the door being provided with power so that it can be opened and closed only when the barrel is turned to the unlocked position; and  
10            an electrically actuated solenoid plunger preventing the barrel from being returned to the locked position unless the door is closed.

18. A device as described in claim 17, wherein said plunger physically prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position.

15            19. A device as described in claim 18, wherein said plunger interacts with an extension attached to said barrel.

20            20. A device as described in claim 19, wherein said plunger prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position by physically blocking rotation of the extension attached to said barrel.

25            21. A device as described in claim 17, further including a down limit switch, which switch opens a circuit supplying power to the solenoid, causing extension of the solenoid plunger, when the door has reached a closed position.

22. A device as described in claim 21, wherein said circuit is  
25 part of a circuit supplying power used to close the door.

23. A device as described in claim 22, wherein said plunger physically prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position.

24. A device as described in claim 23, wherein said plunger interacts with an extension attached to said barrel.

30            25. A device as described in claim 24, wherein said plunger prevents the return of the barrel to the locked position by physically blocking rotation of the extension attached to said barrel.

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26. A device as described in claim 10, wherein said extension is used to open and close at least one circuit providing power to operate the door.

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1,25 28. A device as described in claim 19, wherein said extension is used to open and close at least one circuit providing power to operate the door.